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A CORRECTION—BY EDWARD S. HOLDEN.

Unauthorized statements with regard to the Lick Observatory observations of *Mars* have been telegraphed over the United States with the result that astronomers and others are temporarily holding false impressions of our scientific results which I desire to correct. The circumstances were as follows:—

On the evening of July 30, an employé of a San Francisco newspaper asked me by telephone to answer certain questions with regard to *Mars*. I did so briefly. My replies were evidently misunderstood, for the Editors sent out telegrams containing various errors to the Directors of other observatories. One of these telegrams read as follows:—

(dated) SAN FRANCISCO, July 31, 1892.

To
—— ——, Director of —— Observatory:

"Director HOLDEN, Lick Observatory, *announces* that present observations show Mars' satellites in eclipse and that *each* "*satellite moves its own diameter in two-tenths of a second; also* "*that canals not double.* Will you kindly telegraph result your "observation and what you think HOLDEN'S *announcement?* "Send dispatch collect."

(Signed) ———— ————

I have italicized certain words of this dispatch to direct attention to them. I "announced" nothing as a final result; I said nothing regarding the satellites' diameters; I made no statement that the canals were not double at all, since I knew beforehand that some of them were. Eclipses of the satellites were no new things, since they were observed here in 1890. The effect of this dispatch might be to stop or to hinder observations at observatories less favorably situated than our own; it misrepresented the work of the Lick Observatory; it did a great injustice to our honored correspondent, Professor SCHIAPARELLI, the discoverer of the double canals.

I therefore felt it proper to send a dispatch to the Manager of the Associated Press—especially as inquiries began to pour in upon us with regard to "announcements" for which we were not responsible,—to say that we were responsible for such dispatches only as were signed by us.

The necessity for some such disclaimer is emphasized by the fact that on August 17 and succeeding dates the canals of *Mars* have been seen to be doubled here in 1892 as they had been in 1890. Thus the Lick Observatory has twice confirmed Professor SCHIAPARELLI'S discoveries of 1877 and 1881.

OBSERVATIONS OF THE OCCULTATION OF *MARS* SEPT. 3, 1892, AT MOUNT HAMILTON.

N. B.—The times are Pacific standard times = G. M. T. — 8 hours.

With the 36-inch Equatorial.

Immersion, with 36-inch equatorial, power 350.

Contact I, $9^h\ 16^m\ 8^s.3$ Pacific standard time.
" II, 9 17 12.6 " " "

The disk of *Mars* disappeared at $9^h\ 17^m\ 11^s.1$ A straight line of light about equal in length to the diameter of *Mars* remained on the moon's limb for $1^s.5$ after the disk disappeared.

Emersion, with finding telescope of 36-inch equatorial.

Contact III, $10^h\ 32^m\ 28^s.1$ Pacific standard time.
" IV, 10 33 29.4 " " "
Duration ... 1 16 18.3.

W. W. CAMPBELL.

Contact.	Pacific Standard Time.
1st	Sept. 3, $9^h\ 16^m\ 5^s.6$
2d	9 17 12.6
3d	10 32 26.1
4th	10 33 25.8
Duration	1 16 16.8

For the first and second contacts the 4-inch finder (Power 25) attached to the tube of the great telescope was used. The third and fourth contacts were observed through the 36-inch telescope using a power of 350 diameters. Just before the disappearance at second contact the limb of *Mars* appeared blurred. After third contact the difference between the colors of the moon and *Mars* was strikingly shown, *Mars* having a dull red appearance compared to the brilliant yellow of the moon.

J. M. SCHAEBERLE.